



Exclusions Policy - Seven Hills School

Adopted 12 February 2015

Reviewed & Agreed 9 February 2017

Reviewed & Agreed 14 February 2019

Rationale

Seven Hills works hard to ensure the continued education of all students and aims to manage challenging behaviour effectively within the school setting. However, the Headteachers have the right to exclude a student whose behaviour breaches the school's behaviour policy and has a negative effect on the ability of others in the school to learn or go about their normal business without detriment to their health, well-being or safety. The decision to exclude a pupil must be lawful, reasonable and fair.

Permanent exclusion should only be used as a last resort, in response to a serious breach, or persistent breaches, of the school's behaviour policy; and where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.

Objectives

- To ensure the continued safety, health, welfare and education of all students
- To manage challenging behaviour effectively by allowing time for students to reflect on their actions away from the school setting
- To communicate a clear message to all students and families about the school's expectations with regard to behaviour
- To conduct all exclusions sensitively and equitably, taking into account the context and learning needs of the students involved
- To protect staff and other adults in school from the risks associated with challenging behaviour

Roles and Responsibilities

Headteacher is expected to:

- Act within the law when applying all exclusions (see appendices)
- Communicate decisions about exclusions clearly to Chair of Governors, families and staff within the statutory timescale
- Investigate all incidents thoroughly before deciding to exclude a student

Parents/carers are expected to:

- Support the school ethos and behaviour policy by emphasizing to their children the importance of appropriate behaviour and, in the case of exclusions, the reason for the sanction
- Following an exclusion, attend a reintegration meeting with the Headteacher to discuss arrangements for their child's return to school

Teachers are expected to:

- Provide the Headteachers with information about behaviour incidents as part of investigations
- Provide work for excluded students to do at home for the first five days of any exclusion, and as required thereafter

Governors are expected to:

- Review all exclusions through Curriculum and Pupil Welfare sub-committee and ensure statutory procedures have been followed
- Be responsible for providing (in conjunction with the Headteachers) alternative provision from the sixth day of any fixed term exclusion for more than five days.

- Sit on panels to hear any appeals against exclusions brought by parents and carers as necessary

Approach/Policy Content

The school aims to support and educate students about appropriate behaviour. While some students present challenging behaviour, this is always considered in relation to their learning difficulties and level of understanding. Some students require behaviour support plans and are supported to meet the school's expectations of behaviour through a range of strategies.

However, where serious breaches of the Behaviour Policy occur the Headteachers will consider exclusion for either a fixed term or, for very serious incidents, permanently. Before excluding any student, all aspects of the incident(s) will be thoroughly investigated and the decision to exclude will take into account the context and learning disability of the student.

All exclusions will be made by the Headteacher although other members of the leadership team may be delegated to investigate incidents, communicate with parents and complete administrative tasks involved with exclusions.

The school recognises that exclusions are upsetting for parents and aims to deal with these situations as sensitively as possible.

The school recognises it's responsibility for providing full time education from the sixth day onwards of fixed term exclusions of more than five days and seeks to work with families and outside agencies in order to identify the most appropriate provision for this that will meet both the educational and behavioural needs of the student.

Parents will be made aware of their legal rights with regard to exclusion of their child. They will be given the opportunity to appeal against exclusions and provided with the contact details of the chair of governors for this purpose on request.

Parents and their child will be expected to attend a reintegration meeting at school following an exclusion in order to discuss how their child can be reintegrated successfully into the school community.

The school will follow statutory legislation for permanent exclusions, including communicating to parents about their right to appeal. However, in line with DFE guidance, due to all students being vulnerable because of their special needs, the school aims to avoid permanently excluding students wherever possible. Instead we would work with the local authority and parents to provide a managed move to appropriate alternative provision.

Success Criteria/Required Outcomes

- Exclusions are only used proportionately to more serious incidents and are applied fairly and equitably
- Statutory processes are followed in line with all relevant legislation
- Staff and governors understand their responsibilities with regard to exclusions

Links to Other Policies and documents

- Exclusion from maintained schools, Academies and pupil referral units in England
A guide for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion (Appendix ii)
- Seven Hills School Positive Behaviour Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 years

Monitoring and Evaluating

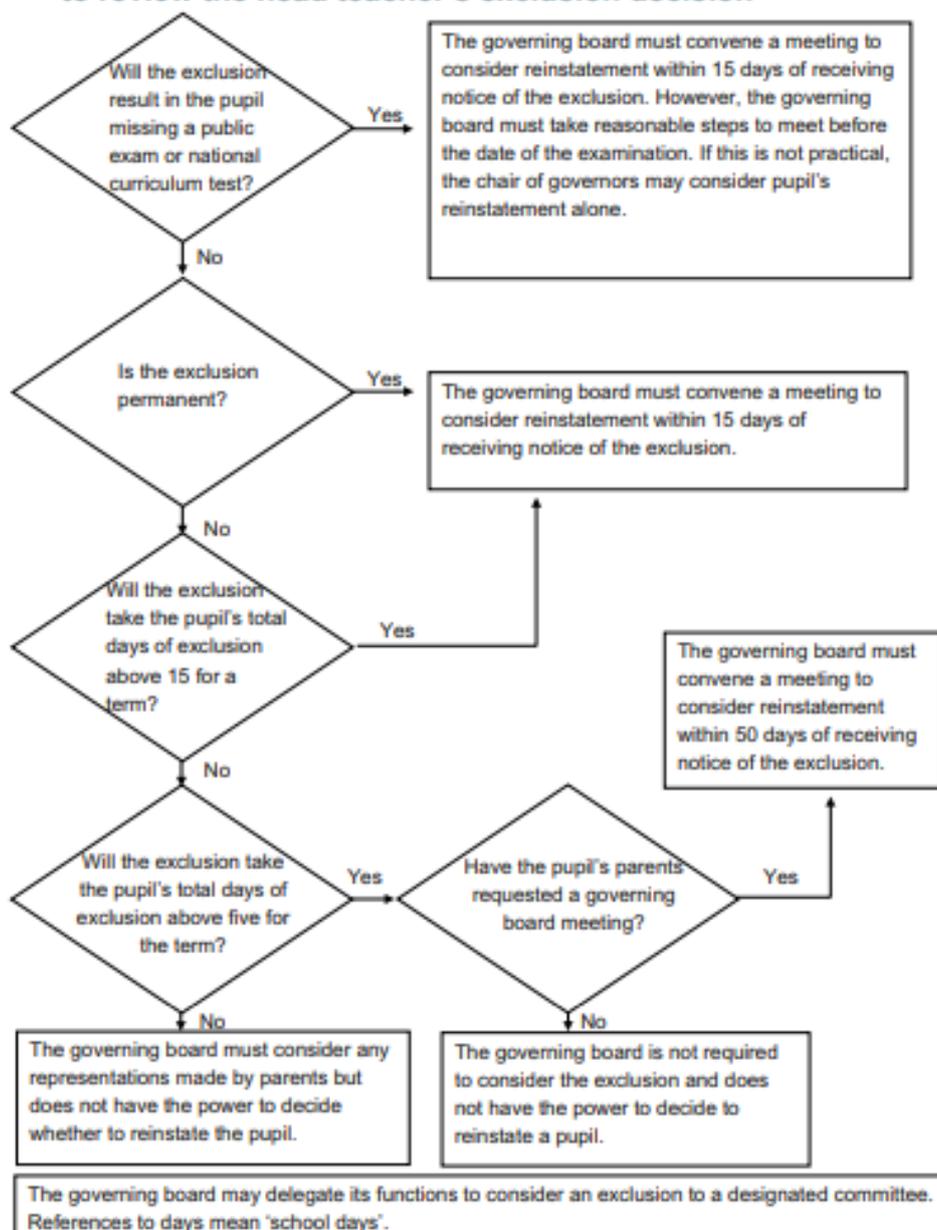
The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed through the systematic process of whole school self-review and evaluation. This process will use the following evaluation tools:

Records of exclusions

Analysis of behavioural data and incident logs

Surveys of pupils', staff and parents' views

Annex A – A summary of the governing board's duties to review the head teacher's exclusion decision





Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England

**Statutory guidance for those with legal
responsibilities in relation to exclusion**

September 2017

